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Based on the episode of *Lost Planet of the Gods* part I and II of the television series *Battlestar Galactica*™ •
created by Glen Larson and written by Glen Larson and Don Bellisario

BATTLESTAR GALACTICA



DOGFIGHT!



Stan Lee
PRESENTS

Battlestar GALACTICA™

Based on the episode of *Lost Planet of the Gods* part I and II
of the television series
Battlestar Galactica™
created by Glen Larson
and written by Glen Larson
and Don Bellisario



I... I KNOW WE'VE
FLOWN A LOT OF
PATROLS TOGETHER,
APOLLO, BUT...

STARBUCK, YOU
SOUND LIKE YOU'VE
JUST LOST YOUR
BEST FRIEND! THIS
IS NOTHING BUT A
ROUTINE
PATROL.

WE HAVE TO
FIND OUT WHAT'S
IN FRONT OF THE
FLEET!

THE LOST GODS OF KOBOL

PART ONE: INTO THE VOID!

ROGER MCKENZIE • SCRIPT
WALT SIMONSON & KLAUS JANSON • ART
NOVAK, LETTERING • K JANSON, COLORING • JIM SHOOTER, EDITOR

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THAT'S WHAT I MEAN.
Y'SEE, THIS MISSION
IS THE LAST ONE
WE'LL EVER HAVE...



...WELL... YOU
KNOW... THE
WAY WE ARE!



STARBUCK--

-- I BELIEVE
YOU'RE JEAL-
OUS OF
SERINA AND
ME!



MEEEEEE?
JEALOUS?



HECK NO, CAPTAIN! I
THINK IT'S SWEET YOU
TWO ARE GETTING
MARRIED AND ALL!
IT'S JUST--

APOLLO, DEAD
AHEAD! WHAT
IS THAT?



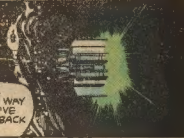
I'M NOT SURE, STAR-
BUCK, BUT WE'D BETTER
CHECK IT OUT! THAT'S
WHAT WE'RE HERE FOR!

MAYBE I CAN
EDGE FAR
ENOUGH OUT
FOR MY SHIP'S
SCANNERS TO
MONITOR THE
OTHER SIDE OF
THIS... VOID!

APOLLO,
WAIT!



ONCE YOU'RE IN THERE,
YOU MAY NOT FIND YOUR WAY
BACK! LET ME DO IT. YOU'VE
GOT SOMEONE TO COME BACK
TO... CAPTAIN!



YES I DO, STARBUCK. SOME-
ONE VERY SPECIAL. BUT I
WILL NOT HAVE YOU, OR
ANY MEMBER OF BLUE
SQUADRON, TAKE
UNNECESSARY RISKS
TO PROTECT ME.

THAT CLEAR,
LIEUTENANT?
STAY PUT!



APOLLO... SPRAXX...
I CAN BARELY READ,
YOU... SKREKK...
TURN BACK... SPRUKK...
BEFORE IT'S...

TOO LATE! THERE'S
NOTHING IN HERE FOR
MY INSTRUMENTS TO
LOCK ON TO! THE NAVI-
GATIONAL SENSORS
ARE LOST--

AND IF
THEY'RE
LOST... I'M
LOST!



BUT EVEN AS HIS SLEEK VIPER
CRAFT STREAKS AT NEAR-LIGHT
SPEED THROUGH THE ALL BUT
TRACKLESS EMPTINESS...

...APOLLO'S
THOUGHTS
RACE BACK,
ACROSS TIME
AND SPACE, TO
THE GALACTICA.
TO...

SERINA I CAN'T REMEM-
BER WHEN I'VE HAD SUCH
A WONDERFUL REPAST!
WHY, IF I WERE A FEW
YEARS YOUNGER...

BUT YOU SAID
THAT YOU AND
MY SON HAD
SOMETHING
TO TELL US...

YEAH... DUFF...
APOLLO...
WHAT IS THIS
BIG SECRET
OF YOURS?

ALL RIGHT, STARBUCK, ALL
RIGHT! SERINA
AND I HAVE
DECIDED--

--THAT WE WOULD LIKE VERY
MUCH TO BE **MARRIED**,
ASSUMING NO ONE HAS ANY
OBJECTIONS!

BOXEY?
FATHER?

NOT
ME!

AND
YOU KNOW
YOU BOTH
HAVE MY
BLESSING!

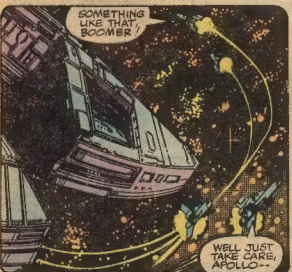
CONGRATULA-
TIONS, CAPTAIN!
THAT'S THE
BEST NEWS
WE'VE HEARD
IN A CENTON,
RIGHT,
JOLLY?

IT
SURE IS,
BOOMER!
IT SURE
IS!

UH, CAPTAIN,
I'VE BEEN
MEANING TO
SPEAK TO
YOU ABOUT
THIS PATROL.
THE MEN AND
I WERE
THINKING THAT
IF YOU'D
RATHER NOT
GO, WE'LL
COULD--

THANKS STAR-
BUCK, BUT I
THINK I RATHER
WOULD IF IT'S
ALL RIGHT WITH
YOU MOTHER
HENS, THAT IS!

ONE LAST
FLING, HUH,
CAPTAIN?



"... BECAUSE WHEN YOU GET BACK WE MAY
JUST HAVE A LITTLE **SURPRISE** FOR YOU!"

IF I GET BACK! I'M
STUCK IN AN OCEAN
OF DARKNESS AS FAR
AS THE EYE CAN SEE!
NO STARS, NO
PLANETS...



WHILE, AT THE EDGE
OF THE VOID...

NO SENSE WAITING
HERE ANY LONGER.
APOLLO! I'M
COMING FOR YOU,
ORDERS OR NOT!



YOU READ ME,
CAPTAIN?

APOLLO??!



OH
FRAK!

SNIK



I'M EITHER
GOING TO FIND YOU,
CAPTAIN, OR...

AND SEVERAL CENTONS
LATER...



WHAT THE --?!
LASER BURSTS! IS
THAT YOU, STARBUCK?

STARBUCK?

I THOUGHT
I TOLD YOU
TO --

I GOT LONELY, APOLLO!
WHAT SAY WE GET OUT OF
THIS PLACE? I'M GOING
TO EXECUTE A HUNDRED
AND EIGHTY DEGREE
TURN!

WE'LL TRY TO FLY
BACK BY THE SAME
ROUTE I ENTERED!

BUT WHAT ARE YOU
USING FOR A FIX,
STARBUCK?

THE END OF
MY NOSE, CAPTAIN!
I USED TO BE PRETTY
GOOD AT THIS BACK
AT THE ACADEMY!

JUST STAY TUCKED IN CLOSE--



--CAUSE
WE'RE
GOING
HOME!

MEANWHILE, ON A SMALL, SEEMINGLY
DESERTED PLANETOID SOME QUAD-
RANTS AWAY...

THERE, JOLLY! I
THOUGHT THERE WAS
MORE HERE THAN
FIRST MET THE EYE!

I SEE IT,
BOOMER...

"...A CYLON OUTPOST! BUT IT
LOOKS ABANDONED!"

LOOKS CAN BE DECEIVING,
SERGEANT, ESPECIALLY WHERE
CYLONS ARE CONCERNED! WE
HAVE TO WARN THE GALACTICA.
WE DON'T DARE BRING THE FLEET
THIS WAY!
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE
BEFORE WE'RE SPOTTED!

BUT...

COLONIAL
WARRIORS
FROM THE
GALACTICA!

KLIK

"NOTIFY THE IMPERIOUS
LEADER!"

AT THAT MOMENT, ABOARD
A CYLON BASE STAR--

--IN THE COMMAND CHAMBER
OF THE IMPERIOUS LEADER...

I HAVE EXAMINED
YOUR EPISTLE
SUGGESTING YOU
WOULD BE ABLE
TO LOCATE THE
HUMANS, BALTAR!

O-OH, YES, IMPERIOUS
LEADER! I--I
THINK AS THEY DO!
I KNOW WHERE
THEY MUST GO,
WHAT THEY MUST
DO!

YOUR
REASONING
IS MOST...
LOGICAL!

TH-THEN I AM TO BE...
SPARED?

OH MY, YES,
BALTAR--
TO SERVE
THE
EMPIRE!
I
LUCIFER,
WILL
BE YOUR
AIDE!

I BRING
GOOD NEWS,
IMPERIOUS
LEADER--

"...WE BELIEVE WE HAVE LOCATED THE BATTLESTAR GALACTICA!"

ALPHA PATROL ONE, CLEARED TO LAND!

JOLLY STRAIGHTEN OUT YOUR APPROACH!

GET YOUR NOSE UP! A CADET COULD MAKE A BETTER LANDING RUN THAN THAT! WHAT'S THE MATTER?

"...BUT... I THINK... I CAN MAKE IT..."

I... DON'T KNOW, BOOMER! MY EARS ARE RINGING... IT'S GETTING AWFULLY HOT... IN HERE...

HE DOES, BARELY.

JOLLY, YOU CHECK WITH THE DDC, WHILE I CHECK ON APOLLO'S SURPRISE BIRTHDAY PARTY!

HE AND STARBUCK OUGHT TO BE BACK SOON, SO HURRY OR YOU'LL MISS THE FUN!

R-RIGHT... FUN...

--OFF YOUR FEET...? BOOMER!

S-SURE IS... HOT... I...

BOOMER! YOU'RE JUST IN TIME! BELLY UP TO THE BAR, OLD BUDDY, AND TAKE A LOAD--

WHEW!

CONTINUED AFTER 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING



MEANWHILE, AS STARBUCK AND APOLLO MAKE THEIR LANDING APPROACH...

HERE WE ARE, CAPTAIN! HOME SWEET HOME! LOOKS LIKE OUR WORRIES ARE OVER!

COMMANDER ADAMA, THIS IS SICK BAY! WE'VE GOT A PROBLEM HERE!



STARBUCK... WHAT YOU DID BACK THERE... I COULD HAVE YOU COURT-MARSHALLED FOR DISOBEYING A DIRECT ORDER...

...BUT, THANKS, I--



AW, WHAT'S A FRIEND FOR IF NOT TO MAKE A GUY COMFORTABLE THROUGH HIS LAST FEW HOURS AS A FREE MAN?

C'MON, I GOT A LITTLE--



APOLLO! STARBUCK! DON'T MOVE!

--SURPRISE?

BOOMER'S BURNIN' UP! I--I THINK HE'S DYIN'!



THE REST OF YOU GET BACK IN THAT ROOM!

THIS AREA IS UNDER QUARANTINE BY ORDERS OF COMMANDER ADAMA!

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?



LIEUTENANT BOOMER AND FLIGHT-SERGEANT JOLLY HAVE CONTRACTED SOME SORT OF VIRUS! IT'S APPARENTLY CONTAGIOUS ...AND POSSIBLY FATAL!

AND MAY THE GODS TAKE PITY! SHOULD AN EPIDEMIC BREAK OUT ON BOARD THE GALACTICA--AND SWEEP THROUGH THE FLEET--

--WHAT'S LEFT OF THE HUMAN RACE COULD BE DOOMED!

MINUTES LATER, ON THE BRIDGE OF THE GALACTICA...

WHAT AN INCREDIBLY STUPID BLUNDER! SKIPPING DECONTAMINATION PROCEDURES JUST TO ATTEND A... A PARTY!

THE IMPORTANT THING NOW IS TO RECOVER, COLONEL TIGH! WE'VE ALTERED COURSE TO AVOID THE CYLON OUTPOST--

-- WHICH MEANS WE MUST FOLLOW THE ROUTE EXPLORED BY STARBUCK AND APOLLO!

NEGATIVE, FATHER! WE CAN'T GO THAT WAY!

THERE'S SOMETHING OUT THERE POTENTIALLY MORE DANGEROUS THAN THE CYLONS--

--A MAGNETIC SEA AS ENDLESS AS ANYTHING I'VE EVER ENCOUNTERED!

A VOID SO FAR ACROSS WE COULDN'T SCAN THE OTHER SIDE! YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN WHAT IT DID TO MY SENSORS!

IF STARBUCK HADN'T FLOWN IN AFTER ME BY THE SEAT OF HIS PANTS, I COULDN'T HAVE MADE IT BACK!

WHAT IF WE SKIRT AROUND THE VOID? FOLLOW ITS PERIMETER?

COMMANDER? COMMANDER ADAMA?

AN... ENDLESS VOID? BY THE GODS OF KOBO, COULD IT POSSIBLY BE...?

COLONEL, I'LL BE IN MY QUARTERS.

CONTINUE PRESENT COURSE UNTIL FURTHER ORDERS.

BUT, COMMANDER--

--WE'RE HEADING RIGHT FOR THE VOID!

YOU HAVE YOUR ORDERS!

COLONEL, WE CAN'T...

WE CAN, CAPTAIN, AND WE WILL! WE... HAVE OUR ORDERS.

AND, SOMETIME LATER...

BOXEY/HOW'S MY VERY FAVORITE COLONIAL WARRIOR?

FINE.

IS YOUR MOM HERE?

WELL, SHE...

SHE'S RIGHT HERE, APOLLO! FLIGHT CADET SERINA REPORTING FOR DUTY! HOW DO I LOOK?

SERINA--? UH, WILL YOU EXCUSE US FOR A CENTON, BOXEY?

COME ON, MUFFEY... THEY'RE GONNA ARGUE.

WE ARE NOT GOING TO ARGUE.

YES THEY ARE!

YES WE ARE! WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN A WARRIOR'S UNIFORM?

LEARNING TO BE A WARRIOR, CAPTAIN! I'VE BEEN IN TRAINING EVER SINCE ADAMA OPENED UP THE PROGRAM TO REPLACE THE PILOTS WE LOST!

I WON'T LET YOU DO IT, SERINA, IT'S TOO DANGEROUS!

APOLLO, THERE IS NO SAFE PLACE ANYWHERE IN THE FLEET! EVERYBODY'S BEING TRAINED IN EVERY CAPACITY! IT'S THE ONLY WAY WE'RE GOING TO SURVIVE--!

MAYBE, TELL ME, ARE YOU ANY GOOD?

TOP OF THE CLASS!

YOU'D BETTER BE! YOU'RE GOING TO BE MARRIED TO A SQUADRON COMMANDER!

MEANWHILE, IN THE HUSHED, ANTISEPTIC CONFINES OF THE GALACTICA'S SICK BAY...

DOCTOR, THIS DISEASE HAS SWEEPED THROUGH NEARLY EVERY FIGHTER-PILOT AND HALF THE BRIDGE OFFICERS!

DO YOU THINK I DON'T KNOW THAT, COMMANDER? JUST TAKE A LOOK AROUND! MOST OF THESE MEN WOULD BE DEAD ALREADY IF I HADN'T PLACED THEM IN CRYOGENIC SUSPENSION!

BUT I'M ONLY DELAYING THE INEVITABLE UNLESS I CAN ISOLATE THE CAUSE OF THEIR INFECTION!

DOCTOR, I HOPE YOU UNDER-
STAND THE SIGNIFICANCE
OF THESE MEN. THEY ARE
THE FLEET'S SOLE MEANS
OF DEFENSE!



YES I UNDERSTAND
ALL THAT COMMANDER
AND THAT'S YOUR
PROBLEM



MINE IS KEEPING
THEM ALIVE

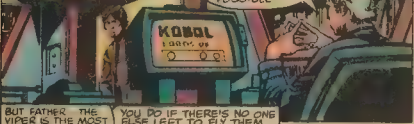


SOON...

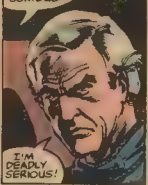
YOU SENT
FOR ME,
FATHER?

YES, APOLLO COLONEL
TIGH HAS PREPARED A
ROSTER OF EVERY
AVAILABLE PERSON IN
THE FLEET WITH
FLIGHT EXPERIENCE

BASICALLY, IT COMES DOWN
TO A HANDFUL OF OLD-TIME
WARRIORS WITH VARIOUS
DISABILITIES AND A FEW
SHUTTLE PILOTS I WANT
YOU TO GET THEM
COMBAT-READY AS
QUICKLY AS
POSSIBLE



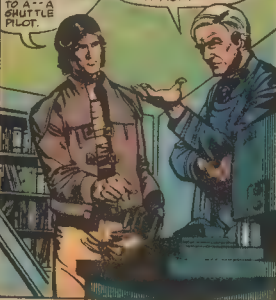
YOU'RE NOT
SERIOUS!



I'M
DEADLY
SERIOUS!

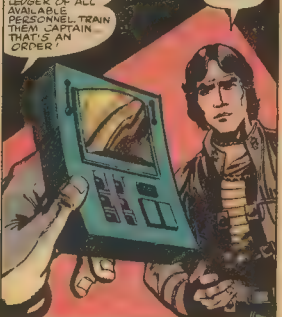
BUT FATHER THE
VIPER IS THE MOST
ADVANCED FLYING
MACHINE EVER
DEIGNED BY MAN!
YOU DON'T JUST
TURN ONE OVER
TO A--A
SHUTTLE
PILOT.

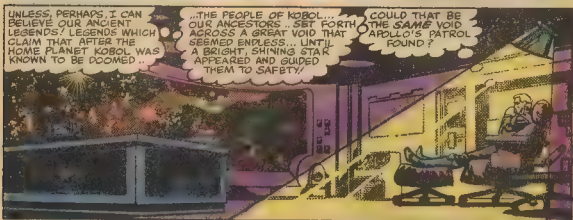
YOU DO IF THERE'S NO ONE
ELSE LEFT TO FLY THEM,
SON OR WOULD YOU
PREFER TO TURN THE
GALACTICA OVER TO THE
CYLONS WITHOUT EVEN
A FIGHT?



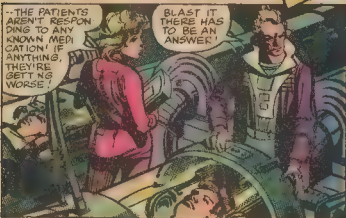
HERE IS A COM-
PLEDGER OF ALL
AVAILABLE
PERSONNEL TRAIN
THEM CAPTAIN
THAT'S AN
ORDER!

YES, SIR





"AND DO I DARE RISK THE SAFETY OF THE GALACTICA AND THE SHIPS SHE HAS SWORN TO PROTECT ON WHAT MAY BE NO MORE THAN A MYTH?"



MEANWHILE, IN THE VIPER PILOTS' TRAINING AREA...



WELL, LADIES

WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME. WE'D BETTER GET STARTED!

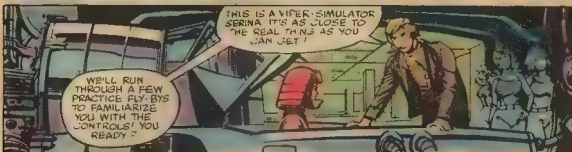
NOW I REALIZE YOU AH. SHUTTLE PILOTS HAVE NEVER FLOWN A VIPER BEFORE BUT

YES, CADET SERINA?

I LOVE YOU!

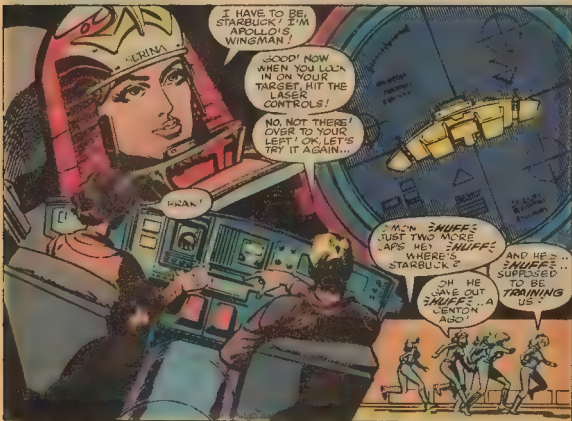
YES WELL UM UM

TAKE OVER STARBUCK



WE'LL RUN THROUGH A FEW PRACTICE FLY-BYS TO FAMILIARIZE YOU WITH THE CONTROLS! YOU READY?

THIS IS A VIPER SIMULATOR SERINA. IT'S AS CLOSE TO THE REAL THING AS YOU CAN GET!



I HAVE TO BE, STARBUCK! I'M APOLLO'S WINGMAN!

GOOD! NOW WHEN YOU LOCK IN ON YOUR TARGET, HIT THE LASER CONTROLS!

NO, NOT THERE! OVER TO YOUR LEFT! OK, LET'S TRY IT AGAIN...

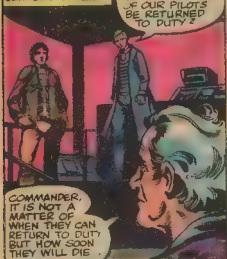
FRAN!

OH MON ~~SHUFF~~ JUST TWO MORE ~~SHUFF~~ APS HEY ~~SHUFF~~ WHERE'S STARBUCK?

OH HE GAVE OUT ~~SHUFF~~ A CENTON AGO!

AND HE ~~SHUFF~~ SUPPOSED TO BE TRAINING US!

AND SO, SEVERAL
CENTONS LATER



DOCTOR, HOW
SOON CAN SOME
OF OUR PILOTS
BE RETURNED
TO DUTY?

COMMANDER,
IT IS NOT A
MATTER OF
WHEN THEY CAN
RETURN TO DUTY
BUT HOW SOON
THEY WILL DIE.



I WANT PERMISSION
TO RETURN TO WHEREVER
THE TWO WARRIORS
LANDED! I FEEL IF I CAN
ISOLATE THE SOURCE
OF THE INFECTION--



DOCTOR THAT ASTEROID
IS A PARSEC BEHIND US...
AND IT IS A CYLON OUT-
POST! YOU CAN'T GO BACK...
NOT WITH ONLY TWO
VIPERS BEHIND US!

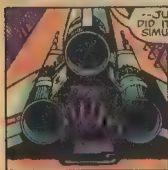
WE HAVE..
OTHER
PILOTS...
APOLLO...



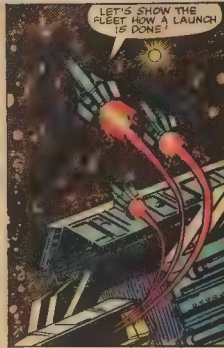
"FATHER, YOU CAN'T MEAN
THE SHUTTLE PILOTS' THEY--

"THEY ARE OUR ONLY
HOPE, CAPTAIN! DOCTOR,
ASSEMBLE A LANDING
PARTY.. ON THE DOUBLE!"

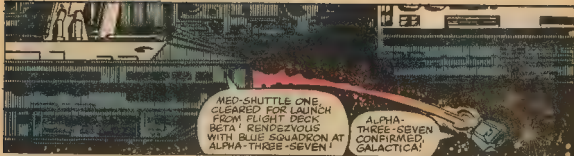
THAT'S A GENERAL
ALERT! ALL RIGHT,
BLUE SQUADRON--



--JUST LIKE WE
DID IT IN THE
SIMULATORS!



LET'S SHOW THE
FLEET HOW A LAUNCH
IS DONE!



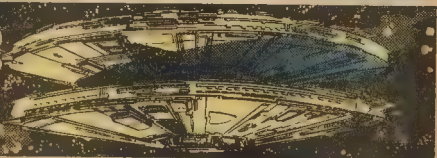
MED-SHUTTLE ONE
CLEARED FOR LAUNCH
FROM FLIGHT DECK
BETA 1 RENDEZVOUS
WITH BLUE SQUADRON AT
ALPHA-THREE-SEVEN!

ALPHA-
THREE-SEVEN
CONFIRMED,
GALACTICA!

WHILE ON THE CYLON
BASE STAR...

BY YOUR COMMAND! WE
HAVE OVERTAKEN THE
GALACTICA AND ARE
TRAILING JUST BEYOND
SCANNER RANGE!

EXCELLENT,
LUCIFER,
EXCELLENT!



THE GALACTICA
HAS JUST
LAUNCHED A
SQUADRON OF
FIGHTERS
TOWARD ONE
OF OUR
OUTPOSTS
THEY WILL,
OF COURSE
BE FLYING
INTO A
TRAP!

OF COURSE
BUT WHAT OF
THE REST
OF THE
FLEET?

THEY ARE
ENTERING
THE
EPSILON
QUADRANT
HEADING
TOWARD
AN UN-
EXPLORED
VOID!



A VOID?
ARE YOU
SURE?

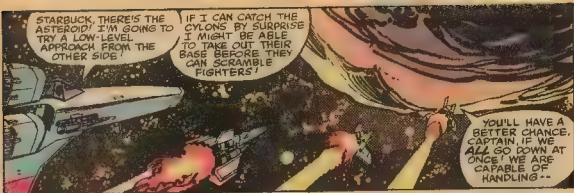


POSITIVE, BALTAZ!
SHALL WE SEND OUR
FIGHTERS AFTER THE
GALACTICA?



NO! I
HAVE A
PLAN..

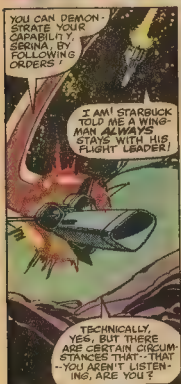
...AND IF I AM
RIGHT ADAMA WILL
TURN THE GALACTICA
OVER TO ME WITHOUT
FIRING A SINGLE
SHOT!



STARBUCK, THERE'S THE ASTEROID! I'M GOING TO TRY A LOW-LEVEL APPROACH FROM THE OTHER SIDE!

IF I CAN CATCH THE CYLONS BY SURPRISE I MIGHT BE ABLE TO TAKE OUT THEIR BASE BEFORE THEY CAN SCRAMBLE FIGHTERS!

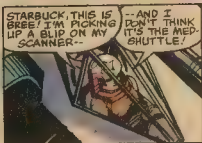
YOU'LL HAVE A BETTER CHANCE, CAPTAIN, IF WE ALL GO DOWN AT ONCE! WE ARE CAPABLE OF HANDLING--



YOU CAN DEMONSTRATE YOUR CAPABILITY, SERINA, BY FOLLOWING ORDERS!

I AM! STARBUCK TOLD ME A WINGMAN ALWAYS STAYS WITH HIS FLIGHT LEADER!

TECHNICALLY, YES, BUT THERE ARE CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES THAT--THAT--YOU AREN'T LISTENING, ARE YOU?



STARBUCK, THIS IS BREE! I'M PICKING UP A BLIP ON MY SCANNER--

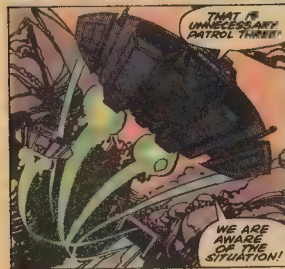
--AND I DON'T THINK IT'S THE MED-SHUTTLE!



OH, FRAK! HEADS UP, GIRLS!

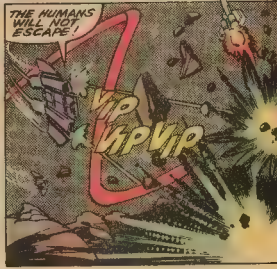


COLONIAL WARRIORS! WARN THE OUTPOST!



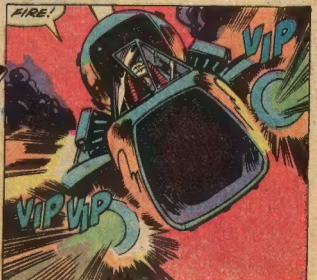
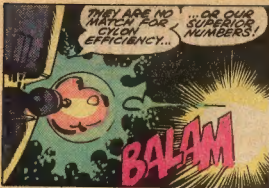
THAT IS UNNECESSARY PATROL THREE!

WE ARE AWARE OF THE SITUATION!



THE HUMANS WILL NOT ESCAPE!

VIP
VIP
VIP



BULLPEN BULLETINS

STAN'S SOAPBOX

So there I was a few weeks ago, gabbing with a gaggle of undergrads during a light-hearted lecture at the College of St. Thomas in Minnesota. We were yakking it up with the usual perceptively probing questions from the audience and the usual obliquely obfuscatory answers from yours truly. Everything was smoothly easing along when I suddenly announced that the mixed-up Marvel menagerie was planning a new and totally unique type of magazine to unleash upon a defenseless humanity before year's end. Then, from the frenetically frantic, excited reaction on the part of the merry Minnesotians, I figured I'd better start dropping a few heavy hints to the vast hordes of Marvel-dom Assembled, as well. So, here's all I dare tell you at the moment. We're daringly designing a magazine to be radically different from any we've ever done—aimed at a predominantly adult audience, but dazzling enough to entrance the sharper younger reader, too. It's so new and experimental that we haven't even zeroed in on the exact title yet! As for me, I'm personally so elated and excited about the project that I'll be taking over the reins as editor myself, with the most talented staff in publishing to aid, advise, and keep me out of trouble. We'll shoot more info your way as we keep zooming along, but for the present let's just call it "Project X"—and don't say we didn't warn you! Or, in the imperishable words of Irving Berlin, "Nous verrons ce que nous verrons!"

Excellent!

Stan

ITEM! Last Spring, at a Creation Convention held here in New York, during a question-and-answer session with brand new Editor-in-Chief Jim Shooter, someone asked whether Marvel would be raising the cover price on its comics soon. The question was not entirely unexpected, since another comics company had announced its intention to increase prices weeks before, and Jim had checked carefully with Marvel's top brass on the answer he gave: Marvel Comics will hold the line throughout 1978 and into 1979 if possible. As you undoubtedly noticed, last month, the second month of 1979, Marvel raised its cover price for comics from 35¢ to 40¢. We didn't like doing it—we wish we could have held out longer, but it was just not possible. Like everyone else, we're victims of the cur-

rent economic crunch, but keeping our word and stemming the tide of inflation as long as we could was very important to us. We could have upped prices along with the other guys, and banked a few more shekels last year maybe, but a promise is a promise. Anyway, we love weaving our fantastic fantasies as much as you enjoy sharing them. Since it's going to cost you a bit more to share them now, we'll just buckle down and try harder than ever to make our stories even more exciting and involving. Just thought you'd like to know.

ITEM! And pow, when you least expect it, it's crossover time again! In issue #234 of CAPTAIN AMERICA, for instance, *Daredevil* swashbuckles in for what could be a very hot time. Meanwhile, POWER MAN/IRON FIST guest-stars the *X-Men* for a showdown with the Living Monolith in a mind-boggler entitled (believe it or not) "Pharaohs On Broadway!" As if that weren't enough, DOCTOR STRANGE #35 features a guest appearance by the Avengers as the Master Mage tackles the mystery of the Black Knight's statue! They're all on sale now!

ITEM! We're very pleased to report that a certain extremely talented, versatile and creative writer has wandered Marvel's way of late, and it looks like he's here to stay. Welcome aboard, then, to "Macabre" MICHAEL FLEISHER, renowned for his superb work on the Spectre and Jonah Hex for the competition, and also for his recently-published tome, *The Great Superman Book*. Michael's first assignment at Marvel should

come as no surprise—it's the GHOST RIDER, naturally. You can see why we're so high on Michael's style in issue #36 of GR as the Spirit of Vengeance wreaks havoc in Denver, Colorado! It's on sale now!

ITEM! Not to be outdone, the crack creative crew of the uncanny X-MEN has come up with another triumph in issue #122, on sale (you guessed it) now! Chris Claremont, John Byrne and Terry Austin have combined to create a classic entitled "Cry For The Children!" which delves deep into the past of the beautiful mutant/goddess, Storm. It's an issue of insight and intrigue...a landmark! And wait'll you see the graffiti on the walls in the tenement scene!

ITEM! While the Bullpen is busy creating new works of wonder, those wonderful folks over at Simon & Schuster are reprinting some of our past pinnacles of artistic achievement! SPIDER-MAN Pocket Book #3, for instance, features stories from *The Amazing Spider-Man* issues #14-20 in glorious color for only \$2.25! It's 153 pages of Lee Ditko excitement and better book stores everywhere already have them!

ITEM! We get many letters from folks who are puzzled by, of all things, the credits on our magnificent magazines. We'd like to take this opportunity to clear up, for once and for all, which folks do what and why—but pay attention! We're only going to do this once! **Plotters:** Anybody so credited helped figure out the story, and usually typed up a short synopsis of the happenings therein. **Pencilers, Layouts, Breakdowns:** They're the heroes who draw the story in pencil using the plotter's story synopsis as a guide. **Writers:** These guys write the dialogue, captions, titles...and the credits. Some of them have a penchant for calling themselves *authors* and other high-falutin' names! They're usually the ones who do the plots too, so we don't bother crediting the plot unless someone other than the writer did it. **Letterers:** They do the hand lettering in the balloons from the writer's script. **Inkers, Finishers, Embellishers:** Artists so credited go over the penciled drawings with black India ink, making them darker and smudge proof for better printing, as well as enhancing the style. **Colorists:** These stalwarts are given photostatic copies of the inked pages which they color with special dyes. They're used as color guides by the engraver. **Editors:** We...er, that is, "they" are the most important of all, being in charge of the whole operation. Editors assign all the other jobs and check everyone's work for mistakes, in general putting everything together. And, as everyone knows, editors are the salt of the Earth. Got the facts straight now? Whee!



THE ALL NEW FANTASTIC FOUR IS HERE!

THE BOLDEST
MOST EXCITING
ANIMATED ACTION
SERIES IS THE
SMASH HIT OF
THE SEASON!



ALL NEW!
HERBIE, THE ROBOT!

CO-PRODUCED
BY MARVEL--IT'S
MADE SATURDAY
MORNINGS ON
NBC THE PLACE
TO BE!
'NUFF SAID!



2 DEATH IN THE FAMILY!

BATTLESTAR BULLETINS

c/o MARVEL COMICS GROUP
576 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10022

ALLEN MILGROM
EDITOR
MARY JO DUFFY
ASSISTANT EDITOR

In a word, *whew!* What with *Battlestar Galactica* being the hit of the season, we at Marvel had no doubt that our version would be one of Marvel's biggest successes since a fellow named Peter Parker got himself nipped by a radioactive spider. So, without a centon's delay, let's cut the felpercarb and plunge into the mail. . .

Dear BATTLESTAR GALACTICA

So you're planning to make this a regular Marvel mag! You've also got *STAR WARS*; how about going all the way and getting the best: *Star Trek*?

I hope the format you will use is an adaptation of the TV shows, with original stories placed between them.

Could you elaborate on some specifics of Adama's religion? He prays; he swears by the Lords of Kobol; he follows the Book of the Word; he invokes the Lords' cars. Fascinating!

Until Baltar becomes Lord of the Sith...Live long and prosper!

Er...that is...Make Mine Marvel!

(By the way, how about *Battlestar Bulletins* or *Galactigrams* for the letter page title?)

Rick Jones
Cedarville College
Cedarville, OH 46314

Funny you should ask, Rick Jones! (Rick Jones? You don't think...nah, it couldn't be!...) Not only are you dead on target when it comes to our luminous letter page logo, but original stories are on the way as well! Beginning with issue #8, *BATTLESTAR GALACTICA* will consist entirely of all-new material, as carefully crafted by Ramblin' Roger McKenzie, and wild 'n' wooly Walt Simonson. The bushy-bearded Mr. Simonson (who makes his artistic debut on *GALACTICA* this very issue) is no stranger to the wild and crazy world of science fiction, as his stellar performances on Marvel's versions of *Star Wars* and *Cross Encounters of the Third Kind* have shown. We wish Walt a long and happy run on this mag, unmarred by Cylon invasion, track, or the Dreaded Deadline Doom. Enough preening, Walt! Back to the drawing board!

Dear Boys:

Your first issue of *BATTLESTAR GALACTICA* was good! In fact, it was so good, have you ever thought of making a TV show out of it?

Danny Gaines
1903 St. Joseph Ave.
Berrien Springs, MI 49103

No.

Dear BATTLESTAR Staff:

I have just read the first issue of *BATTLESTAR GALACTICA*

and must say it is better than I thought it would be. You see, I had also read the Super Special edition and was slightly disappointed by its lack of accuracy, but now my faith is renewed by your color comic adaptation of "B.G." The art is outstanding. Do you think you could get together a list of terms like "Micon" and "Centon" and give their meanings? I have trouble understanding what everyone is saying. Thanks.

Phillip M. Clerk
800 Meadowgrass Dr.
Florissant, MO 63033

Phil, this is as good a place as any to let you *Battlestar* buffs in on a behind-the-scenes secret. The fact is, the Super Special version of *BATTLESTAR* was written and drawn before the spectacular 3-hour debut of the series was telecast, with Roger and Ernie basing their version on the shooting script and a screening of the unedited version of the show. The tricky guys at ABC made some surprise changes in the pilot that could not have been reflected in the Super Special edition, as the S.S. had already gone to press. As many of these unintentional errors could be corrected before the color comic version of *BG* made its debut, the continuity is a bit better. Who says this isn't the Marvel Age of frenetic frankness?

Dear Cosmic Collaborators:

Your initial issue of *GALACTICA* was well, okay. If this series were solely an adaptive series from the TV show, I wouldn't be buying it because, for the most part, the TV series has been pretty poor, for reasons I won't go into. However, with Rog at the writing helm, this series has excellent potential. His plots are imaginative, and his characterizations are quite good as well, so I have confidence this series can go far.

I hesitate to comment on the art in this issue. The panel structure was disjointed. It was very hard to follow the story, and there was poor attention to detail. I've seen Colon do better than this. It looked like a rush job. Better luck next time, guys.

Joel Cochin
7 Partridge Road
Lexington, MA 02173

Thanks Joel, but in the talented Mr. Colon's defense, any artist working on an adaptation from TV has his work cut out for him, since the costumers of a series only have to worry about whether or not a costume looks good on camera. They don't have to draw the furshlugginer thing a million times an issue! In that light, we think Ernie did a fine job, though (as mentioned above) the artistic responsibility on *GALACTICA* is now being co-shouldered by Walt Simonson and Klaus Janson. Don't be shy about letting us know what you think of their version of everyone's favorite *Battlestar*, you hear? And until next issue, may the Force be with you! (Oops! Wrong letters page!)

HEADS UP
PEOPLE!

HERE COMES
DAREDEVIL
THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR!

THRILL TO THE ADVENTURES OF THE
SCARLET SWASHBUCKLER WHO
DWELLS IN ETERNAL DARKNESS.

